



COCHIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Monday, the 27th of March 1933
14th of Meenam 1108

The House met at half-past eleven of the clock with M. R. Ry., Rao Bahadur T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar Avl., acting Diwan and Ex-officio President in the Chair. Messrs. C. Barton Wright, K. G. Nayar, T. K. Nayar, A. I. Mani, K. Mohamed Seethi and P. Nilakanta Menon were absent.

Swearing in of New Members.

M. R. Ry. Rao Bahadur T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar Avl., acting Diwan, first took the oath. Messrs. U. Kandar Menon (Diwan Peishkar), V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (Chief Engineer), E. S. R. Menon (Special Member for Prevention of Food Adulteration Bill) and R. A. Gayatrinatha Ayyar (Special Member for Co-operative Societies Regulation Amendment Bill) also took and subscribed the oath of allegiance.

Opening Statement by the President.

President.—Hon'ble Members of the Cochin Legislative Council and my good old friends:—

The whirligig of time has again tossed me to this Chair, the most honoured Chair in the State, His Highness the Maharaja having been graciously pleased to call me again to act as His Diwan during the absence of the permanent Diwan, Mr. Herbert, on important business of State in Delhi.

Thus the privilege of cordially welcoming you all to another meeting of this Council has once more become mine, a privilege, I need hardly tell you, my friends, I value and honour very much. (*Hear, hear*).

We have a very heavy agenda before us traversing a very wide field, consisting, as it does, of no less than 8 important legislative measures intended to promote the social and material welfare of His Highness' subjects, a large number of resolutions (49) relating to diverse matters of public importance and touching on the activities of the administration in almost every branch and a pretty good number of demands for supplementary grants, besides over 300 questions to be answered. I have no doubt

that, with your help and hearty co-operation and with the business-like methods of work (*Hear, hear*) for which this Council has established a reputation, we will be able to get through all the items of work before we conclude our labours on Friday next. Anyhow let us make a strenuous attempt to attain this object.

Now we are all having an anxious and critical time. The proposals for the Indian constitutional reforms outlined in the White Paper recently issued by His Majesty's Government in England are now before the public, and I am sure these proposals must be in your thoughts now as indeed in those of every patriotic Indian, whether a citizen of British India or an Indian State. Let us all look forward to the return of the Diwan from Delhi to know in detail where we, in this remote corner of India, stand in the scheme of reform.

I would like to make a personal request. I am an old familiar figure in this Council and I have been associated with this House ever after its inception, and I have in the past played my humble part not only in its inception and inauguration, but also in its actual functioning to the best of my ability. You all know that this is the last occasion on which we work together in this Council, and I appeal to you, my good old friends, to extend to me, a parting colleague, all kindness, consideration and sympathy and, I may also add, your indulgence in conducting the proceedings of this House as you have been graciously pleased to do before. (*Hear, hear*).

Point of order re: Additional Members.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—On a point of order, Sir. There are two new Members to this House. Can they now sit with the other Members? They can be present only when these bills are actually introduced.

President.—I do not know what the previous practice is.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—The Members were allowed only to sit in the Council.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Last time Srimati Parvathi Nenminimangalam was given a seat in the gallery and she was allowed to be present only when the Bills were actually introduced.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—These Members are not allowed to take part in the debate now.

President.—I'll leave it to the sense of the House.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—We shall be only too glad to have them here.